

TRUE COPY

Of the *Petition* of the Lord Mayor,

Aldermen, and the rest of the Common-
Councill, of London, presented to both
Houses of Parliament, March

18. 1641.

With the Answer of Both Houses of Parliament
to the said *Petition*.

Mr. SPEAKERS Letter,

Ordered

By the Honourable House of Com-
mons, to the High Sheriffs, and Gen-
try of YORKSHIRE.

Shewing their dislike of such as have endeavoured
to perwade the Countrey, that their petition
to the Parliament was ill advised.

Secondly, their dislike of such as have endeavoured to per-
swade godly Ministers, that their discourses are non ac-
ceptable to the House.

Thirdly, their dislike of such as have endeavoured to per-
swade the Trained Band from going into Ireland.

London Printed for Iohn Wright. 1641.

18. 4. 64.
**A True Copy of the Petition of the
Lord Maior, Aldermen, and the rest of the
Common-Councell of London, presented
to both Houses of Parliament, March**

*The humble Petition of the Maior, Aldermen, and the rest of
the Common-Councell of the City of London,*

Sheweth.

THAT the Petitioners doe much rejoyce in the happy
and ioyfull Concurrence of both the Houses of Par-
liament, as in other things, to especially, in that most
necessary Ordinance touching the Militia of this King-
dome, and dominion of Wales, Whereunto the Peti-
tioners doe most humbly and cheerefully submit, for the
safety of His Majesty, the Parliament and Kingdome:
for the ordering whereof many pressing Petitions from
most parts of the Kingdome have been exhibited, in this
time of imminent Danger, proceeding from the bloody
Counsell of Papists and others, ill affected to the ho-
nour, peace and prosperity of our most gracious King,
and his Kingdome.

And the Petitioners doe likewise humbly returne all
possible thanks unto this Honourable House, for the
great honour and high favour vouchsafed in giving them
leave to nominate the Persons to whom the Militia of
this City should be committed: And for accepting and
approving of the Nomination and return made to this
Honourable House, by the Petitioners on that behalf.

But this their joy is much disturbed and interrupted by an untrue, and dangerous Petition, intituled *The Petition of the Citizens of London*, whose names are under written, directed and delivered, in *February* last, to the Lords and Commons assembled in Parliament, and since published in Print, with this Title, *The humble Petition of the Citizens of London*: thereby to publish it through the Kingdome, as the Petition of all the Citizens: wherein is set forth (as appears by one of those Printed Copies annexed) that the ordering of the Armes of *London* hath come out of mind, beene annexed to the Mayoralty of the said City; that the conferring thereof upon others would reflect upon the government and Customes of this City, granted by the great Charter of *England*, and confirmed by divers Acts and Charters since that time; and which every Freeman of the said City is by the Oath of his freedome bound to maintaine to the utmost of his power; and that such alteration in the ancient Government might breed great distractions and inconveniences: or to this effect.

Not this alone, but the Petitioners are yet more deeply wounded and grieved, by the presumptuous boldnesse of the Publishers of the said Petition in Print, by joyning therewith His Majesties Answer and denyal, intituled, *His Majesties Message to both Houses of Parliament, February 28. 1641.* Which Answer (as the Petitioners humbly conceive) was grounded upon the said Petition, and misinformation of some persons, ill affected to His Majesty and to the City, who have thereby, and otherwise, often endeavoured to make divisions betwixt the King and the Parliament, betwixt the Parliament and the City, and betwixt the Citizens among themselves, to the intollera-

ble abuse of his sacred Majesty, and of all his loyall Subjects.

And they verily beleeeve, that this bold publishing in Print, of the said Petition, and his Majesties Message (which shortly after followed the exhibiting of the said Petition) together in one Printed paper, was purposely done, wickedly and feditiously, to make divisions as aforesaid, to beget an opinion throughout the Kingdome, that the City of London doth not intend to conforme unto, but complaine of, and oppose the aforesaid Ordinance, and to make the said Petition a desperate president to the rest of the Kingdom, to do the like; thereby to hinder the cheerfull, needfull, lawfull, and unanimous Concurrence of the Kingdome, in yeelding due, and full timely obedience to the said Ordinance.

They doe therefore humbly pray, This Honourable House will vouchsafe,

1. To beleeeve, that neither this nor any other Petition of the like kind ever came from the Petitioners, nor was framed, contrived or approved of by them. And that they doe wholly and with detestation disavow and disclaime the same as untrue, unadvised, and dangerous Petition.

2. To put a difference betweene the Authors, Contrivers, Promoters, Advisers, Publishers and Printers of it, and such, as it shall appeare to this Honourable House, were by subtilty drawne in unawares to subscribe the same, without any malignant intention, and shall clearly and fully acknowledge their error, and rashnes therein; and that the latter sort may have such lawfull favour as may stand with the honour and justice of the high Court of Parliament.

Lastly, they doe humbly pray, this Honourable House will still increase their joy, by endeavouring to uphold and continue, by all good

good means that blessed concurrence of both Houses of Parliament, in all your great affaires, and effectually to proceed against all disturbers and underminers thereof, and that shall endeavour to cherish any misunderstanding betwixt the King and Parliament, whom God and the Lawes of this Land have united in so neere a Relation.

And they shall ever be ready to assist and stand by this Honourable House therein, with their lives and Estates, to the utmost of their power, according to their late Protestation.

Another of the same Petitions (with change only of the Title) was likewise presented to the most Honourable House of Peeres, the same day (March 18) by divers Aldermen, and other worthy Members of the Court of Common Councell aforesaid.

And shall uncessantly pray, &c.



The Answer to the aforesaid Petition by the Vpper House.

Die Veneris 18. Martii. 1641.

THe Aldermen and Citizens that delivered the Petition this day to the Lords in Parliament were called in, and the Lord Keeper told them by the direction of the House, that their Lordships did give them thanks for their readinesse and forwardnesse in their Obedience to the Ordinance of Parliament, made by both Houses, concerning the Militia; and further care of preventing any disorders that might have happened by preferring or exhibiting a false and scandalous Petition in the name of the City, whereas it was not so. That their Lordships have ordered, that this Petition now presented shall be printed and Published, and for the scandalous Petition, the Lords have ordered the same shall be burnt by the hand of the Commons, Hangman: and that their Lordships doe resolve to make a difference betweene those that were the Authors and Contrivers of that scandalous Petition and those that were seduced and ignorantly drawne in to subscribe to that Petition.

The Answer of the House of Commons to the aforesaid Petition.

Die Veneris 18. Martii 1641.

THe humble Petition of the Major, Aldermen, and the rest of the Common Councell of this City was this day read in the house of Cōmons, & ordred to be entred in the Journals of the said House, and to be Printed. The Petitioners were called in, and Master Speaker told them that the House had read their Petition, and received it with a great deale of contentment and approbation, and it being of that great consequence, and so full of expression of zeale and affection to his Majesty, and the Kingdome: and in particular, that he was of respect to this House, commended to returne them hearty thanks in the name of the whole House; and wished, that he had words sufficiently to expresse it.

And for those of the City of *London*, that subscribed that dangerous Petition complained of by the Petitioners, and are desirous to acknowledge their error (Provided they were none of the contrivers of that Petition: nor had a malignant spirit in the advancing and exhibiting thereof.) This House, according to the desires of the Petitioners, is willing to shew favour unto them. And as the Petitioners doe expresse their care of the King and Kingdome, and of this House in particular; so this House will be alwayes ready to give their best endeavours to further those things that may concerne the honour and safety of the King and Kingdome, and in particular of the good and safety of the City of *London*.

H. Elsing Cler. Parl. D. Com.

Mr. Speakers Letter.

SIR,

THe House hath received information by Letters from your selfe, that the malice of some hath proceeded so farre of late, as to endeavour first, to perswade your Countrey, that their Petitions to the Parliament were ill relished by this House. And that your free offers therein of putting your selves into a Posture of Defence, hath given such testimony of your abilities, that it hath utterly taken away the hopes of paying your Billet money, till the Parliament knowes not how else to dispose of it. Secondly, to cry downe Excesses (which have already done much good), and to draw off some Ministers by perswading them that they are not acceptable to this House. Thirdly, that some in *Holdest* have dissuaded the Trained Bands from going into and upon the Parliaments Order.

Which information of yours, the House takes for a speciall service, and for so full a testimony of your fidelity to the Parliament, and of love to your Countrey, as they hold it an evident character of your worth, and for this commands mee to give you very hearty thanks. And to desire you in the name of the House to declare to the Countrey, how false and malicious these reports are, since the House was so farre from disrellishing their Petitions, or turning their free offer to their disadvantage, as that they returned their publicke thanks when the Petition was received, Passed a vote to approve of their offer, and since by another Vote justified them in the same. A^c upon his Majesties taking notice thereof. And have since ordered that the same Counties which paid their Billet money heretofore at *York*, shall
now

now pay all their proportions of the Bill of foure hundred thousand pounds shortly to be raised to the discharge of the Billet money in your County and those other Counties where it is owing, which if it shall not fully satisfie, they will discharge as soone as the great necessities of the Kingdome can possibly permit. And likewise they command mee to let you know that they doe very much wonder at the impiety and impudence of those men who dare to hinder the advancement of the glory of God and of his worship. And also to scandalize the piety of this House in so high a measure, as to say those good Ministers endeavours are not acceptable to it, they accounting it their greatest honour to patronize painefull Preachers in the performance of their duties. And being resolved to cherish and advance with their utmost power, whatsoever may tend to the propagating of Religion, of which they hold those exercises to be an especiall meanes. This House therefore being very sensible of the great inconveniences which may happen by their misreports in these distracted times, and from the malice of these men, if it should proceed uncontroll'd, desires, and enioynes you to returne the names as well of those who have vented these untruths, as likewise of those who have dissuaded the Trained Bands in *Holdernesse* from entering into *Hull* upon the Parliaments Order perswading themselves that you who have already given such prooffe of your affection to the Kingdome, will still continue it by your endeavors, to prevent the practices of any ill affected persons upon any of that County, to the disturbance of the peace.

Die Mercurii 16 Martij, 1641. P. A.

It is this day ordered by the House of Commons now assembled in Parliament, that this bee forth with Printed.

H. Elfyngs Cler. Parl. D. Com.

[FINIS.]

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